

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05
NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04
SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 /092 W
-----101226Z 101113 /10

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6942

INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 3529

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, RP, CZ

SUBJ: PHILIPPINE/CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED MARCH 9

1. PHILIPPINE TRADE SECRETARY TROADIO T. QUIAZON, JR.
AND CZECH MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE ANDREJ BARCAK SIGNED
A TRADE AGREEMENT MARCH 9 IN MANILA DEFINING A FRAMEWORK
FOR PRODUCT EXCHANGES AND CONTAINING A MOST-FAVORED-
NATION CLAUSE. ACCORDING TO THE OFFICIAL PHILIPPINE
NEWS AGENCY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA ACKNOWLEDGED IN THE AGREEMENT
ITS COMMITMENT IN UNCTAD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
GSP SCHEME FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE
PHILIPPINES.

2. ACCOMPANYING CZECHOSLOVAK MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE
WERE VLADIMIR KIRSBAUM, A DIRECTOR OF THE MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN TRADE, AND DR. V. HEJKRLIK, A REPRESENTA-
TIVE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAKIA IMPORT-EXPORT CORPORATION
BASED IN SINGAPORE. THIS OFFICIAL MISSION WAS
PRECEDED BY A 12-MAN TRADE MISSION IN JANUARY HEADED
BY LUDVIK CERNY, PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WHO SIGNED TWO AGREEMENTS ON
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COOPERATION WITH THE PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES
AND THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

3. TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IS VERY SMALL
BUT GROWING, IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S FAVOR. THE
CZECHOSLOVAKS EXPORTED SLIGHTLY UNDER ONE MILLION
DOLLARS IN 1974, OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS IN 1975

AND \$3.5 MILLION IN 1976. THE BULK OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK EXPORTS CONSISTED OF MACHINERY OTHER THAN ELECTRIC, BUT ALSO INCLUDED FERTILIZER. THE PHILIPPINES SOLD PRACTICALLY NOTHING UNTIL 1976 WHEN IT EXPORTED \$330,750 WORTH OF COCONUT OIL THROUGH SINGAPORE.

4. ALTHOUGH THE GOP IS INTERESTED IN SELLING MORE TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA, THE DISTANCE INVOLVED AND THE NATURE OF PHILIPPINE EXPORTS DO NOT AUGUR PROMISING RESULTS. THE MAIN SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AGREEMENT LIES IN THE GOP POLICY OF DEVELOPING RELATIONS WITH THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THE AGREEMENT WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA THUS FOLLOWS THOSE WITH POLAND ON FEBRUARY 12, 1975, ROMANIA ON APRIL 19, 1975, BULGARIA ON MAY 2, 1975, THE SOVIET UNION ON JUNE 2, 1976, AND HUNGARY ON OCTOBER 14, 1976. THE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE PRC WAS SIGNED ON JUNE 9, 1975 IN PEKING.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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